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Ablaze Barn Suspected to be Caused by Arsonist

By: Jim Jones

Towards midnight on a cool summer night, Gillespie's barn, filled with livestock, horses, and even a coffin, rapidly caught fire. In a matter of minutes the barn made of dry wood burnt fast and hot. Following an investigation, it was undetermined what sort of fire-making device was used in order to start the fire.

In the barn, most of the valuable objects were recovered and saved mainly because of the heroic actions of Jewel Bundren. Fueled by his love and passion for animals, Bundren entered the barn in a selfless matter doing whatever it took to save the animals. With the help of a few others, Jewel Bundren was able to save nearly everything of value, including his dead mother's coffin.

As an emblem of his selflessness, Bundren was burned fairly badly on his back upon retrieving the coffin from the ablaze barn. In order to demonstrate his commitment, he entered the barn again, after many of the others witnessing this miracle advised against it, so that he could save more. When the Jefferson Times were able to catch up with Jewel Bundren, the only comment they could get from him was: "Get out of my face" in a very violent tone. Clearly, this hero was in shock and most likely provided a brusque statement because of it.

Nonetheless, there is another component of the story. This being that an investigation yielded results that pointed to arson. Fire Marshall 50 Cent stated, "There is no possible way this fire started naturally. There was no environmental conditions that could have possibly arose without the aid of a person. Clearly, this is a case of arson."

After the police were summoned to the scene, it was determined that Darl Bundren was main suspect of the case. This was brought about from a series of witness accounts, some being anonymous. Once such witness named Vardaman recounted that he knew who did it, but would not



This is the suspect Darl Bundren. If you see him, call the authorities immediately. Helpful information will result in an awards. (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/dpstyles/3112730513/>)

specifically reveal the name. He said: "It is not about Pa and it is not about Cash and it is not about Jewel and it is not about Dewey Dell and it is not about me." Investigators were able to derive the suspect by process of elimination because of Vardaman's witness statement. This information combined with physical evidence provided the investigators with their prime subject.

Before they could question him, Darl Bundren departed from Gillespie's farm, with the rest of his family, for Jefferson Mississippi. Authorities have been dispatched to be on the watch for Jewel Bundren in Jefferson.

The motive for the arson is relatively unclear. However, it is hypothesized Darl burned the barn in order to free his dead mother Addie from her pain. If you see Darl Bundren (picture) anywhere call the authorities. Any helpful information is subject to a rewards.

Gillespie's barn was said to be set ablaze by an arsonist. In the above picture, his barn burns with fury and aggressiveness.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/superic/15560813/>